

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 HA-05 EB-08 AID-05
TRSE-00 OMB-01 PM-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
DODE-00 MCT-02 /054 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 123
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 8348

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, IR
SUBJ: QUESTIONS ON PALESTINIAN POPULATION CONCEN-
TRATIONS

REF: STATE 218639

1. IRAN HAS CONSISTENTLY REJECTED PALESTINIAN PRESENCE INCLUDING ESTABLISHMENT OF PLO LIAISON OFFICE. THERE ARE NO STATISTICS ON PALESTINIANS LIVING HERE, AND TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, THEIR PRESENCE IN IRAN IS NEGLIGIBLE. IT IS OF COURSE POSSIBLE THAT PALESTINIANS ARE WORKING IN IRAN PRIVATELY UNDER OTHER DOCUMENTATION, BUT WE WOULD ESTIMATE THEIR NUMBER TO BE NO MORE THAN A HANDFUL, SPREAD AROUND, HAVING NO SEPARATE "PALESTINIAN" IDENTITY.

2. PALESTINIANS LIVING IN IRAN WOULD BE SUBJECT TO SAME FOREIGN LABOR CODES AS ALL OTHER FOREIGNERS AND WOULD NOT BE SUBJECT OF SPECIAL TREATMENT. IRAN, A NON-ARAB STATE, FEELS NO SPECIAL AFFINITY FOR PALESTINIANS, AND GOI IS AWARE THAT PFLP GROUPS IN LEBANON HAVE TRAINED AND ARE TRAINING IRANIANS IN TERRORIST TECHNIQUES. EVIDENCE FOUND DURING POLICE RAIDS OF TERRORIST SAFEHOUSES ILLUSTRATING CLOSE TIES BETWEEN LOCAL TERRORIST GROUPS
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AND PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS OUTSIDE COUNTRY HAS NOT EXACTLY INCREASED OFFICIAL SYMPATHY FOR EITHER PALESTINIAN CAUSE OR INDIVIDUALS.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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